

The Solar Probe Mission

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It is well understood that magnetic storms and substorms are caused by variations of the solar wind and its embedded magnetic fields. The NASA Solar Probe Mission will fly to within 4-solar radii of the center of the sun to make high-time resolution in situ particles and field measurements to determine the specific mechanisms of coronal heating and solar wind acceleration. High-resolution polar UV imaging and magnetographs will be used to determine the solar sources of the coronal heating. Coronal imagers will observe the global large-scale effects of impulsive solar energy bursts. The mission will be described in detail.